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NEWS
WORTH
SHARING.**Luongo happy to be 'going home' to Fla.**

Aggrieved Canuck surprised by trade to Panthers

PAGE 24

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PAGES 12 & 13

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**STUDENT DEBT LAID BARE**

Second-year University of Calgary nursing student Lucy Sun shows just how much debt she has incurred while earning a post-secondary education. Sun and 149 other students at the university took the time to post their outstanding amounts of money owed to a "wall of debt" created by representatives with the U of C's students' union. Student leaders hope to use the wall as an example to advocate for better student aid in the form of grants, bursaries and scholarships. In all, students reported nearly \$3.9 million being owed, or about \$25,000 per head. For more, head to metronews.ca.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Spending figures for civic election raise eyebrows

Disclosures. Documents reveal just how much money candidates got, and from whom, in 2013, with some totals surpassing \$275,000

Calls for campaign-finance reform intensified Tuesday, after financial disclosures revealed just how much some candidates spent in Calgary's 2013 election and how little voters knew about it at the time.

"Some of the amounts are shocking," Mayor Naheed Nenshi said in response to the fact that some candidates for city councillor spent more than \$275,000 on their campaigns.

Ward 7 candidate Kevin Taylor, for example, reported \$276,498 in spending, while Ward 11 candidate James

Maxim reported \$276,538, according to official disclosures obtained by Metro.

"When I ran for council in 2004, I ran a very respectable campaign for about \$25,000," Nenshi said. "The fact that we're looking at, in 10 years, a 10-times increase is insane."

Most council candidates voluntarily posted lists of their campaign donors online prior to the Oct. 21, 2013, election, but those don't always match up with the legally required disclosures, which were officially filed by Monday's deadline.

Coun. Joe Magliocca, for example, disclosed \$93,669 in official spending in his Ward 2 campaign, including \$77,825 in direct contributions.

His official disclosure, however, contains numerous donors not listed on the Campaign 2013 Donations Report he posted on Oct. 15, 2013, including \$2,250 from Trico

Homes, \$4,000 from Shane Homes and \$5,000 from Jayman Master Built.

Bernie Dowhan, who lost to Magliocca in the Ward 2 race, said the councillor is a "clever politician" and suggested it wasn't by accident that home-building companies were left off his voluntary donor list in an election where the influence of homebuilders over local politics was a key issue.

"I had a sneaky feeling that his disclosure on Oct. 15 wasn't the true and honest one," Dowhan said.

But Magliocca said the list was never meant to be exhaustive and he simply told his campaign volunteers to post "some" donors in response to pressure from Dowhan and other Ward 2 candidates at the time.

"I just put up a couple (of donors), just to shut 'em up," Magliocca said Tuesday.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



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Arrested Feb. 5

One man faces over 100 charges

City cops have charged Nicholas Konrad Kirszenstein, 29, with more than 100 offences related to vehicle and property theft.

Police say they saw Kirszenstein, who was arrested on Feb. 5, travelling in a stolen vehicle that day and took him into custody with the help of tactical team members and HAWCS helicopter unit.

Officers then executed three search warrants at residences in the communities of Marlborough Park and Forest Heights, locating and seizing hundreds of stolen items.

Police allege the items were stolen during break-and-enters in rural areas around Strathmore and Okotoks.

METRO

Music fest

Sled Island announces headliners

Grammy Award nominee Neko Case, British psychedelic act Spiritualized and Rocket From The Crypt are among the headliners of this year's Sled Island Music Festival, which were announced Tuesday.

The future of Sled Island seemed uncertain in the weeks following the flood. But 70 per cent of last year's pass and ticket holders donated their refunds and several artists didn't cash their cheques, allowing organizers to get back on their feet.

LISA WILTON/FOR METRO

FIFA's final ruling on religious head covers celebrated by Calgary soccer community



FIFA has officially ruled that hijabs can be worn during play. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ISNA/AMIR POURMAND/FILE

It's been more than six years since Safaa Menhem was ejected from a minor soccer league game for refusing to remove her religious headscarf.

The Muslim youngster's case stirred a massive debate over player safety and religious freedoms in Canada.

Subsequent rulings have cooled that firestorm — and now a decision by soccer's international governing body gives the final

OK to head coverings in the game.

"It's a positive thing considering that no one will have to go through what I went through," said Menhem, now 20 years old. "No one's going to have to repeat the process."

"Finally it's done with."

After a two-year trial, FIFA announced March 1 soccer players could officially wear turbans, hijabs and kippahs. For years, Canadian soccer authorities

at every level have reiterated their support for head coverings.

Kevin Welte, who coached Safaa's U16 team in 2007, acknowledged Safaa's story put a local spotlight on an international issue. Welte was pleased by the ruling, maintaining the right for everyone to have open access to the game.

"It's really super to see it sorted out," he said.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Route has early makings of a 'game changer': Province

Southeast ring road. Councillor says network appears popular during daily commute



JEREMY NOLAINS

jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

ling daily on the network and that count rose to 24,700 in January. Friesen said, however, it does still remain unclear how many vehicles have been veered away from the parallel-running Deerfoot Trail, Friesen said.

Data suggests traffic on that bustling stretch dropped 10 per cent in December when compared to the same month in 2012, but was only down four per cent year-over-year in January.

"Traffic is still shifting, it's still a highly fluid situation ... anecdotally, I think the ring roads are a huge investment and a real game changer," Friesen said.

In all, the ring-road project added 25 kilometres of roadway across six lanes of divided highway as well as 27 bridges, nine interchanges and three flyovers. There was also another 12 kilometres of road opened at Deerfoot Trail between Stoney Trail and the Highway 2A Junc-



Provincial officials say it may take at least a year to have a full understanding of how many commuters are now opting to steer clear of Deerfoot Trail, seen here. METRO FILE

tion. Calgary Coun. Shane Keating travels the ring-road route daily and can see it at a distance from the comfort of his own home. He said, save for a few

remaining gripes about access from residents in Cranston and McKenzie Lake, that most people appear satisfied with the network.

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Fleet grounded. Redford will pay back \$3K spent on flying friends around

Premier Alison Redford revealed Tuesday that she spent taxpayers' money to fly her daughter's friends around on government aircraft but says she will now pay back the \$3,100 tab.

Redford also announced she is grounding the government fleet from flying out of province until the auditor general completes a review on whether taxpayers are getting value for their money.

Redford told a news conference that in the past year and a half she invited friends on the government plane four times to provide company for her daughter, Sarah.

A year ago, said Redford, she and Sarah also took government plane to Vancouver to attend an uncle's funeral, although she said she had other meetings. The cost of that trip is also part of the \$3,100.

"On a few occasions when I know that my schedule will be demanding, I've encouraged Sarah to bring along a

Companionship

"I'm the premier of Alberta, but I'm also the mother to a daughter who I love to spend time with.... I don't always get to do that."

Premier Alison Redford

friend," said Redford.

Redford, who became emotional at times, said it was about trying to balance the demands of parenthood with premiership.

"I'm the premier of Alberta, but I'm also the mother to a daughter who I love to spend time with," she said. "I think many mothers can relate to that, and I don't always get to do that."

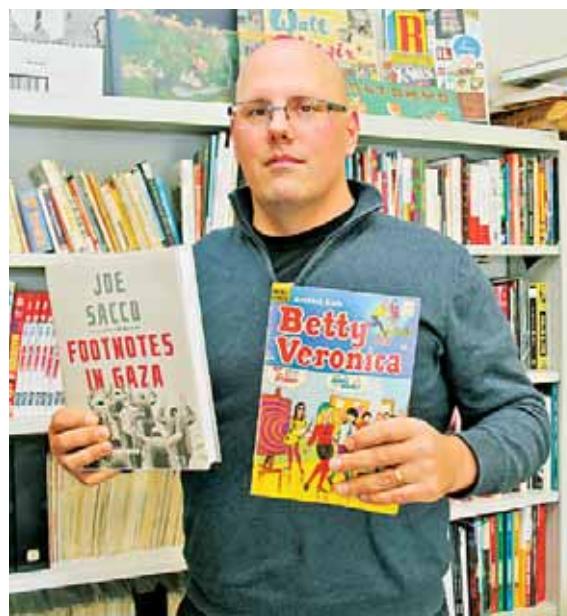
Her announcement came after she faced renewed inquiries about her travel spending during the first question period of the spring sitting. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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H&M

Hey, art critics and poetry buffs — comics have both



Bart Beaty, professor and head of the University of Calgary's Department of English, is a big fan of comics and is showing students in his class there's a lot more to them than caped crusaders and webslingers. **JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO**

Complex doctoral work.

Research being done on superheroes, speech bubbles, proper framing



JEREMY NOLAIS

jeremy.nolaus@metronews.ca

Last week, Bart Beaty's 300-level university class put 1930s Batman comics under the microscope, and the discussions extended way beyond utility belts and the latest exploits of the Joker.

"I certainly think I get a lot of students from, say, engineering who need to take one arts credit and go, 'That's the one,'" said Beaty, professor and head of the Department of English at the University of Calgary. "But I do think it's a tougher class than they anticipate."

English 388 — Comics and Graphic Novels boasts

150 students this semester, making it the most popular course in Beaty's department.

But midterms and assignments stray from memorizing every member of the X-Men. Students are required to retrace comic panels and analyze everything from the placement of speech bubbles to where the artist has chosen to put the action in the frame. Even the shape and size of a panel is intentional, Beaty said.

"There's absolutely no reason that comics can't be as sophisticated as what you might see in poetry or a novel," Beaty said. "(And) when you add pictures to that, you're talking about potentially an even more complex communicative system."

The U of C is recruiting for comics-focused researchers. Applications are being accepted for a doctoral fellowship and a student is already devoting his doctoral efforts to superhero comics.

Councillors agree to lead affordable-housing quest

It's up to Calgary to get the various groups trying to boost the city's supply of affordable housing all pulling in the same direction, members of city council agreed Tuesday.

"It's unfortunate that things have to reach a point of crisis before there's an intervention," Coun. Diane Colley-Urquhart said of Calgary's affordable-housing situation, which hasn't improved in 20

years and has only worsened since last June's flood, according to a city report.

Colley-Urquhart supported the report's recommendation that the city take on more of a leadership role but thought council should go even further.

"What's missing in this report for me is a compelling case statement of the crisis that we're in," she said.

"People are sleeping on the streets, and families are being raised in shelters."

Mayor Naheed Nenshi agreed.

"We need to get the crisis into the hearts and minds of people," he said.

City staff are to report back to council with a more detailed plan on how to proceed by late summer or fall.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

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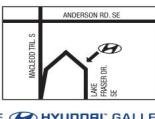
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Crowded classrooms. Vacating charter school to ease space crunch

Calgary's public school board has found some new space in the form of a current charter school to help aid a space crunch in the west-end.

Glenmeadows School, home to the Calgary Arts Academy, will be used starting September 2015 to house kindergarten to Grade 5 students from Westgate School.

The move will prevent Westgate's Spanish program students from being shipped a further distance to Eugene Coste, a move that would have doubled the commute for some. Glenmeadows is just 2.1 kilometres from Westgate, which has been swarmed by students hoping to enrol in both its Spanish and French programs. Each program makes up about half of the school's population.

That campus was announced last month by the provincial government.

Parents had rallied at the CBE's downtown headquarters against the previously announced move of the Spanish program to the vacant Coste

West Springs

- The Calgary Board of Education also announced that grade five and six students at the packed West Springs School will be moved in phases to Rossarock School with the hopes of completing that move by 2016.
- West Springs will also see its kindergarten program capped at 100 students and will introduce a lottery process to determine enrolment.

facility. The group also filed an appeal, which was upheld.

"They've certainly been a tremendously active parent group ... as we are a learning organization, there's always things that one can learn along the way throughout these processes," CBE area director Calvin Davies said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Pedestrian bridges. Have your say on new designs

City officials have released conceptual drawings for a trio of pedestrian bridges to replace those wiped out by last June's historic flood.

In September, city crews were forced to tear down bridges along the Elbow River at Sandy Beach, Riverdale Avenue and Rideau Park.

Area Coun. Brian Pincott liked the renderings, although he acknowledged the architects were somewhat handcuffed in designing spans able to survive the next nautical disaster.

The new models are slated

to be stronger, wider and taller than the previous river crossings.

"We don't have the choice," Pincott said. "We can't build a narrow, swinging wooden bridge like there was before."

Public feedback is now being sought to fine-tune design elements such as bracing shapes, railings and tower tints.

Calgarians can weigh in through an online survey until March 24 or at a drop-in session March 11 at Christ Church Calgary, 3602 8 Street SW.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO



Calgarians are being asked to submit design tweaks for the new pedestrian bridges along the Elbow River. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

Road rage. Shot fired into SUV filled with 7 people

Alberta RCMP are treating a case where a man is suspected of firing a shot into an SUV

filled with seven people, including five children, as an attempted murder investigation.

Police say the bullet exploded through the rear window of the Ford Expedition Saturday night west of Edmonton and lodged into the metal part of a rear bench seat where three girls were sitting.

All of the people inside the vehicle were shaken up but no

one was injured.

RCMP say before the shot was fired the driver of the Ford had argued with the driver of a white Lincoln MKX SUV.

Investigators say they found spent shell casings in the area, perhaps from a handgun.

Police say they are looking for the driver of the Lincoln — a clean-cut man in his 20s.

"We are just fortunate that there was no loss of life here," Cpl. Colette Zazulak said Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

It's not over yet

Winter will end, but spring may be a wet one

We're all looking for a little bit of a break from this winter weather, and while there may be some relief in sight, forecasts are calling for a wet spring.

The Weather Network delivered its 2014 Spring Out-

look Tuesday, and while the bulk of Alberta, including the Calgary area, should get near-normal temperatures during the spring, the forecast calls for above-normal precipitation in the Rockies and adjacent foothills.

The Weather Network says it was the coldest winter in two decades for much of Canada, and winter may hang on a bit for a little while longer east of the Rocky Mountains. METRO

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In this March 21, 2001, file photo Iranian pop star Googoosh performs in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Googoosh has released a video that addresses homosexual love, causing shock waves in the Islamic republic. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Iran's queen of pop breaks gay taboo

Video criticized.

Government-controlled newspapers have labelled Googoosh 'anti-revolutionary' — equivalent of accusing the pop star of treason

Iranian pop star Googoosh has released a video that addresses homosexual love — a major gesture by one of the country's top cultural figures in exile — causing a stir in the Islamic republic, where the topic is taboo and being

convicted of homosexuality can carry the death penalty.

The ballad's lyrics speak of a forbidden love, and the video shows scenes of a happy young woman as seen through the eyes of her lover, contrasted with scenes of disapproval from her father and others. It withholds until the final moments the fact that her lover is another woman.

Googoosh was Iran's first pop diva, though the 1979 revolution interrupted her singing career for two decades until she left the country. Her music has remained popular, including underground in Iran where her

Lyrics

"Don't tell me to stop loving: you can't do that and I can't either."

Googoosh, Iranian pop star, singing in her new release Behesht (Heaven)

status is comparable to that of Madonna.

Navid Akhavan, an Iranian-born German who wrote and directed the video for the song, said it has been viewed by more than a million Iranians online or via illegal satellite channels since its Valentine's Day release.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mount Everest

Nepal cracks down on litterbugs

Litterbugs, beware: Nepal is making new rules to persuade trekkers to clean up after themselves on Mount Everest, in the hopes of clearing the tons of rubbish now clogging the world's highest peak.

Starting this spring, Nepali officials at Everest base camp will check that each climber descends the mountain with about 8 kilograms of trash — the amount the government estimates a climber discards along the route, such as food wrappers, shredded tents and spent oxygen cylinders.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not sci-fi. Scientists revive 30,000-year-old giant virus found in permafrost

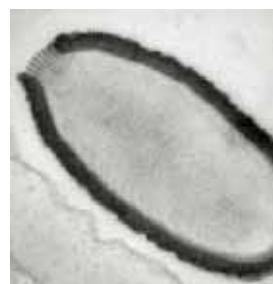
Researchers have revived a giant virus more than 30,000 years old, recovered from the permafrost of northeast Siberia.

The virus poses no threat to people.

Although it is considered a giant when compared to other viruses, it is microscopic and infects amoebas.

The researchers said their finding suggests that dangerous germs might emerge in the future as permafrost thaws because of global warming or mineral exploration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



This electron microscope image provided by researchers shows a section of a Pithovirus particle, dark outline, inside an infected *Acanthamoeba castellanii* cell.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ford says Kimmel Live show a success

'Bananas for Rob'

Mayor said he received support after the show and denied that Kimmel had made a fool out of him

Mayor Rob Ford rejected suggestions on Tuesday that late-

night TV comedian Jimmy Kimmel had humiliated him, and denied needing help for substance abuse.

Speaking at city hall after his trip to Los Angeles, an upbeat Ford sloughed off Kimmel's reruns of several embarrassing videos and his suggestion the mayor find someone to talk to about his addictions.

"I don't have any personal

issues," Ford said.

"We've gone down that road a number of times."

For much of his 15-minute appearance on Jimmy Kimmel Live late Monday, the mayor looked uncomfortable as the comedian razed him over a series of incidents that have garnered Ford worldwide attention.

"Our first guest tonight has tripped, bumped, danced,

argued and smoked his way into our national consciousness," Kimmel said by way of introduction.

Ford said he had received a "lot of support" following his appearance and denied that Kimmel had made a fool out of him.

"I knew I was going into a lion's den but I held my own," the mayor said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has his forehead wiped by host Jimmy Kimmel on Monday in Los Angeles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michigan

It's OK if you are annoying

It's soon expected to be OK to be wilfully annoying in Grand Rapids. The Grand Rapids Press reports that the City Commission is nixing a 38-year-old section of city code that states "no person shall wilfully annoy another person." City Attorney Catherine Mish recommended repealing the language, saying the wording is vague and unenforceable.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nova Scotia

Bar society told to tolerate Christian values

Excluding law school graduates from working in Nova Scotia because they attended a university that prohibits same-sex intimacy would be discriminatory, the university's president told the province's bar society Tuesday. He said religious beliefs won't prevent students from acting professionally and ethically.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Mardi Gras in New Orleans

Members of the Krewe of Zulu hold painted coconuts to give to parade-goers as they march during Mardi Gras in New Orleans on Tuesday. The Zulu parade began on schedule, led by a New Orleans police vanguard on horseback that included Mayor Mitch Landrieu.

GERALD HERBERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Manpower
300

Col. Yuri Mamchur, pictured here, led around 300 unarmed Ukrainian officers to the base outside Sevastopol, Ukraine, in a peaceful attempt to retake their airfield. Russian soldiers drove the troops back by firing warning shots into the air.

Concern

"We are worried. But we will not give up our base."

Ukrainian Capt. Nikolai Syomko, an air force radio electrician patrolling the back of the compound. He said the soldiers felt they were being held hostage, caught between Russia and Ukraine.

Standoffs

Russia's seizure of Crimea has not gone as smoothly as Moscow may have expected. Ukrainian soldiers have refused to hand over weapons or switch allegiances, resulting in standoffs between men surprised to find themselves on opposing sides.

Putin ratchets down Ukraine tensions

Tough talk. Russian president takes jabs at the West, insists he has no intention of annexing Crimea

Vladimir Putin talked tough

but cooled tensions in the Ukraine crisis in his first comments since its president fled, saying Russia has no intention "to fight the Ukrainian people" but reserved the right to use force. As the Russian president held court Tuesday in his personal residence, U.S. Secretary of State

John Kerry met with Kyiv's fledgling government and Moscow agreed to sit down with NATO.

Although nerves remained on edge in Crimea, with Russian troops firing warning shots to ward off Ukrainian soldiers, global markets catapulted higher

on tentative signals that the Kremlin was not seeking to escalate the conflict. Kerry brought a \$1-billion aid package to a Ukraine fighting to fend off bankruptcy.

Putin delivered a characteristic performance filled with earthy language, macho swagger and sarcastic jibes,

accusing the West of promoting an "unconstitutional coup" in Ukraine. At one point he compared the U.S. role in Ukraine to an experiment with "lab rats."

But the overall message appeared to be one of de-escalation. "It seems to me (Ukraine) is gradually sta-

bilizing," Putin said. "We have no enemies in Ukraine. Ukraine is a friendly state." He tempered those comments by warning that Russia was willing to use "all means at our disposal" to protect ethnic Russians in the country.

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ZOOM-ZOOM



So how do things go viral, anyway?

 SHANE GIBSON
Metro in Winnipeg

On the surface, pictures of cats in hats, grown men pretending to be Star Wars characters and a link that unexpectedly opens a video by a one-hit wonder from the '80s all seem like just good ways to have a chuckle while frittering away time at work. But in reality, Internet memes have become a serious business.

Sites like cheezburger.com — credited with bringing into the mainstream the whole cute-cat-picture thing you'll know from your Facebook feed — are worth big money. But that wouldn't be possible if they were run by a couple of bored office workers looking at pictures of cats; a site can only be worth millions if its content is seen by millions. In other, more au courant words, it has to go viral.

But, we wondered, at what point can it be said that something has gone viral? And how exactly does that even happen?

If anyone knows the answers, it's San Francisco based Tim Hwang. He's been chuckling at memes and image macros since before it was cool and, having surmised somewhere along the way that he was an authority

on the subject, organized ROFLCon, the first Internet-culture convention, which debuted in 2008.

It's not an exact science, the 27-year-old self-described social-media expert told Metro, but there are a few things to keep in mind if you want your picture of little Fluffy to explode online.

"One of the funny things about it is if you're intentionally trying to start a meme you have to look like you're not intentionally trying to start it."

Social-media expert Tim Hwang

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"One of the funny things about it is if you're intentionally trying to start a meme you have to look like you're not intentionally trying to start it," he said.

Hwang believes the culture's most recognized

memes share two properties. The first is simplicity.

"For Grumpy Cat, for example, there was one funny image that people could Photoshop.... They've been successful because it's really easy for people to contribute."

The second is malleability, which allows

audiences to customize and then reshare the images.

"Memes need to provide a way for you to participate online to be successful," Hwang said.

"The really interesting thing about memes is that, certainly in the last few years, the world for them has gotten a lot more commercialized. Which is both good and bad.... I think it's been a trade-off. It's really great that a lot more people are connected to the culture of the web, but in some ways the Internet has lost some of its original community feel."



Hwang said that to truly go viral most successful memes and image macros need time online to pick up a dedicated following, and then need the help of mainstream media to really explode. Metro, being part of the mainstream media, decided not to press our built-in advantage on Step 2, the better to understand Step 1 from the point of view of a normal Internet user.



Look out, Lil Bub — it's Stash!

Metro attempts to make this cat go viral



Lil Bub

Known for her perma-kitten appearance, Lil Bub is a dwarf cat with a lolling tongue and a big heart. She's spawned a merchandise empire, and boasts an impressive array of social media followers. She even has her own talk show.

By the numbers:

Born: June 21, 2011
Facebook fans: 645,000
Twitter followers: 34,500
Instagram: 358,000
YouTube subscribers: 105,000



Internet cat-lebrities

Nala Cat

Quite possibly the only cat with over one million Instagram followers, Nala is a Siamese-Tabby mix known for her blue eyes and love of bow ties.

By the numbers:

Estimated age: 3
Facebook fans: 110,627
Instagram: 1,100,000





Meet Stash the Moustache Cat ...

Cute, cuddly and the main character in our quest for worldwide fame, this cat possesses a unique look. Stash came to her owner, Metro Winnipeg managing editor Elisha Dacey, in a special way: Stash and his sister Mya were found abandoned in a box and taken to a local pet shelter, which already had an abundance of kittens and was hoping for some press coverage to spur adoptions.

Reporter Shane Gibson took a photo of Stash, and it was love at first black-hair-fluff-under-nose sight.

Dacey wasted no time in adopting Stash, along with his sister, Mya. We all know the Internet runs on cats. Stash, with his ridiculous moustache, proved the purr-fect protagonist in our quest to answer some culturally pertinent questions: How easy is it to make a cat popular online? How popular would this particular cat have to get before we could fairly call him a viral sensation, like Lil Bub? Check back tomorrow — our answer may surprise you. **Bernice Pontanilla/Metro in Winnipeg**

Online

For a video and photos of Stash and more, go to metronews.ca



The virality checklist



Tim Hwang said that deciding whether something has gone viral is fundamentally subjective and that it's impossible to set purely numerical targets. But for the purposes of our experiment, he suggested some broad categories against which to evaluate our success.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO IN WINNIPEG

1 How many Instagram followers can we accumulate?



2 How many images can we collect from followers? (That is, how many times did someone use our 'template' to create a new meme?)



3 How much action on Reddit, the self-proclaimed front page of the Internet, can we generate?



4 How much traffic can we drive to Stash's website, stashthemoustachecat.com?



5 How many views of Stash's Imgur pictures can we achieve?



Maru

One of the first cats to garner online fame, Maru is a Scottish fold from Japan whose fascination with boxes has been delighting YouTube users for years.

By the numbers:

Born: May 24, 2007
YouTube subscribers: 428,000



From cats to coups in the 'Global Village'

Canadian prophet

"The new electronic interdependence recreates the world in the image of a global village."

Canadian communication theorist and intellectual Marshall McLuhan (1911-1980)

Though the Internet arrived years after McLuhan's death, he foresaw that technological advances would bring about a world that would once again be reduced to a village, albeit a very large one.

McLuhan's vision, one can easily argue, has come true: Trends and news now travel at the speed of a click.

And while it occurs for such silly things as music vid-

eos — think Psy's Gangnam Style, which has 1.9 billion views and counting — it has also proved useful for serious events such as the recent crisis in Ukraine.

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Dear America, Please approve the Keystone pipeline

Sincerely, Canada.
Government sends the U.S. a letter asking that the controversial project gets the OK

from Canada's ambassador to Washington, Gary Doer, says the two countries have already worked together on different climate initiatives, including vehicle-emissions standards, and they can do more.

"Our energy and environment officials are currently assessing common energy issues, including potential oil and gas issues, which we could usefully address together," said the note to Secretary of State John Kerry, dated Feb. 28 and released Tuesday.

The letter argues the merits of the pipeline on environmental, economic and energy-security grounds — and it suggests a willingness, without offering specifics, to take additional steps to curb greenhouse-gas emissions.

The three-page note

Barack Obama revealed that he and Prime Minister Stephen Harper talked at a North American leaders' summit about new initiatives to curb greenhouse-gas emissions. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

| Market Minute | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
|  | DOLLAR 90.09¢ (-0.13¢) |
|  | TSX 14,289.86 (+77.12) |
|  | oil \$103.33 US (-\$1.59) |
|  | gold \$1,337.90 (-\$12.40) |
| Natural gas: \$4.64 US (+\$0.14) Dow Jones: 16,395.88 (+227.85) | |



Fiscal plan? Pssh! Have you heard my recess plans?

U.S. President Barack Obama sits with Marcus Wesley and other preschool students during his visit to Powell Elementary School in the Petworth neighbourhood of Washington on Tuesday. Obama visited the school to talk about his fiscal 2015 federal budget proposal, which was released Tuesday. **PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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THERE'S A DIRE NEED FOR ... CLOWNS?

There's a worldwide shortage of clowns.

I'm not clowning around. I'm serious. According to an "exclusive" story in the New York Daily News, the membership of the World Clown Association has declined by 1,000 in the past decade, from 3,500 to 2,500.

This has implications for the future of clowning:

Instead of "Send in the clowns," we'll have to change the lyrics to "Send in a clown" or "Is there a clown around?"

At the point in the circus where all the clowns pile out of the VW Beetle, we'll have to add a few acrobats and lion tamers to beef up the numbers. Maybe the plate spinner and the knife thrower.

Desperate times. It's enough to wipe the smile off any clown's face, but of course you can't do that because it's painted on.



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Various reasons are offered for the decline but the main one is attrition. The old clowns are dying off, and there aren't enough young ones ready to take over. Young people who think they're funny go into stand-up comedy, where you don't need a red nose, just a potty mouth.

But I think the real culprit is Stephen King, who wrote about a creepy clown called Pennywise in *It*, the scariest novel ever written, back in 1986. Pennywise offered kids balloons and then ate them (the kids, not the balloons).

Clowns have never been the same since. Instead of lovable old Bozo, we have Krusty of the *Simpsons*, the disreputable echo of

Pennywise.

Of course, there was the notorious real-life creepy clown John Wayne Gacy — the Chicago serial killer who was re-

sponsible for at least 33 deaths throughout the '70s of young men and boys. When he wasn't murdering people and burying them under his porch, he entertained children as Pogo the Clown.

After Pogo, Pennywise and Krusty, no one in their right mind would want to be a clown.

It's too bad, really. A clown can happy up a birthday party, but these days Princess doesn't want some dumb old clown; she wants Justin Bieber — and the way he's going, he'll be doing birthday parties by July.

Talk about creepy clowns.

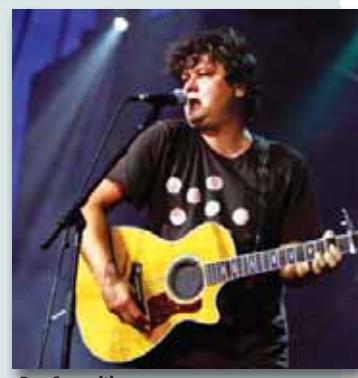
If this keeps up they may have to lower the standards at clown boot camp. Yep, at last year's Ringling Bros. Clown College (it's hard to resist the urge to spell everything with a "K," as in Kloon College) only 14 out of 531 applicants were selected to attend boot camp (Clown Feet 101? Introductory Pratfalls?) and only 11 of those were hired on to the circus.

At that rate they'll have to retire the VW Beetle. Smart car, maybe?

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIeld
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Despite the best efforts of a certain lamentable patent troll, podcasting is still going strong and the diversity of presentations, subjects and gimmicks becomes more diverse by the day. Here are three can't-miss subscriptions on iTunes.



Ron Sexsmith GETTY IMAGES

Sodajerker:

A British songwriting team turns their love of music into an excuse to talk songwriting with some of their heroes. Nick Lowe, Johnny Marr, Rufus Wainwright and Ron Sexsmith are just a few of the many to sit down to talk about their lives, their feuds, and, of course, their songs.

Welcome To Night Vale:

We've already mentioned the wonderfully weird premise of a community radio station broadcasting from a small town besieged by supernatural events and the machinations of mysterious, all-powerful figures. However, I still meet people who have never heard of it — even though they have a perfectly good Internet connection. Absurd.

IRL Talk:

Formerly known as Geek Friday, the new name manages to hang onto the Internet jargon while not scaring away those too delicate to handle being called a "spit" geek. But the material remains the same — witty talk about whatever foolishness or tech is hot this week, alongside evergreen topics like the loathsomeness of trolls or the great butlers of pop culture history.

Comments

RE: Proper Spelling Is Sexy, says Metro's Jessica Napier, published March 4

there is nothing wrong with "donut". there's nothing wrong with "text-speak". you write as if something vaguely horrible will happen if we

don't quickly fix all these terrible things that are destroying language. there is no evidence anywhere that we're all being hopelessly confused by the lack of a comma. linguists know this perfectly well, but authors like Lynne Truss only fan the flames of this manufactured "grammar police state". ugh.

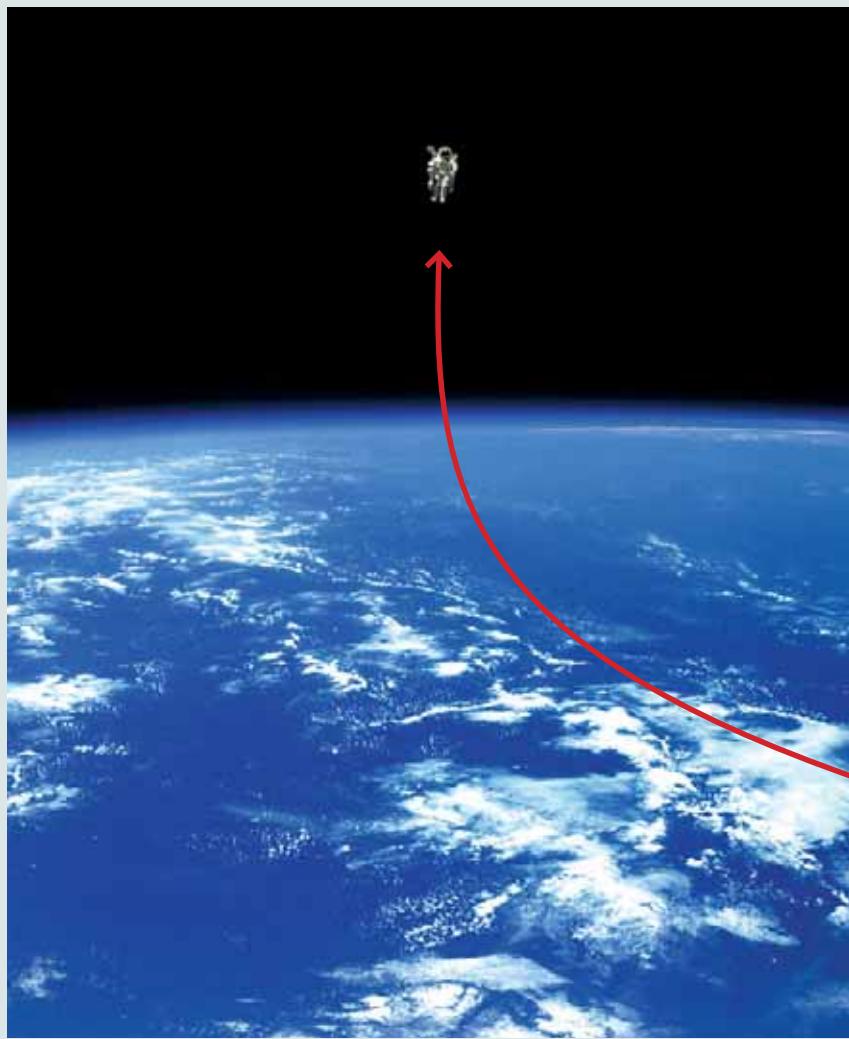
Hank posted to metronews.ca

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ZOOM

Oscar-worthy picture by NASA



COURTESY NASA

Gravity images outshine movie

Space drama *Gravity* was the big winner on Oscar night — now savour the movie's inspiration. NASA has released spectacular real-life space photos that are strikingly reminiscent of the jaw-dropping scenes and panoramas from the movie. The space agency tweeted the set of archive images under #RealGravity. **METRO**

Astronaut says

"I told (Sandra Bullock) that I had long hair, and if you pulled a hair out and pushed it against something, you could move yourself across the space station. That's how little force it takes."

NASA Expedition 26 astronaut Cady Coleman, explaining to *Gravity* star Sandra Bullock what life is like in micro gravity.

Art imitates life

In this 1984 image that showcases the chilling yet beautiful isolation of space, NASA astronaut Bruce McCandless II was photographed further away from his spaceship than any other astronaut in history. He was able to do so thanks to a nitrogen jet-propelled backpack. He was 98 metres from the Challenger orbiter. **METRO**

Creator goes WABAC to Rocky & Bullwinkle well

Improbable history.

Time-travelling cult TV cartoon characters get big-screen treatment



IN
FOCUS

Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Jay Ward may not be a household name, but many of the characters he created are.

As the grand poobah at Jay Ward Productions he produced the animated television shows that gave us Rocky & Bullwinkle, Dudley Do-Right, Peabody and Sherman and George of the Jungle among others.

His cartoons weren't just for kids. The Los Angeles Times wrote, "The good ones, which Ward was a master at creating, worked at two levels: One direct and another wonderfully satiric."

This weekend his characters take over the big screen in Mr. Peabody & Sherman, an animated film starring the voices of Modern Family's Ty Burrell, Stephen Colbert and Leslie Mann.

Mr. Peabody & Sherman isn't the first film based on Ward's characters.

In a 1992 television movie (originally shot in 1988 for theatrical release) SCTV alum Dave Thomas played Boris Badenov, "world's greatest no-goodnik." With his partner-in-crime Natasha Fatale (Sally Kellerman) he leaves



Rocky & Bullwinkle spinoff Mr. Peabody & Sherman stars the voices of Modern Family's Ty Burrell, Stephen Colbert and Leslie Mann. CONTRIBUTED

Finding their 'wayback'

Based on Peabody's Improbable History segment from the Rocky and Bullwinkle Show, the movie sees the duo use the WABAC machine to ping pong through time, interacting with everyone from Marie Antoinette to King Tut to Leonardo da Vinci and Albert Einstein.

Pottsylvania for the United States to retrieve a microchip. TV Guide said, "as a

90-minute feature film, it's at least 80 minutes too long," but it's worth a gander to see one of the rare live action performances of June Foray, the original voice of Rocky.

Brendan Fraser brought two of Ward's characters to life, George of the Jungle and Dudley Do-Right.

George of the Jungle is a riff on Tarzan. He's a boy raised in the jungle by an ape (John Cleese) but who never mastered the art of swinging from tree to tree. Rotten Tomatoes gives it a 56% Fresh Rating, but the film

remains most memorable for the catchy "George, George/ George of the Jungle/ Strong as he can be/ Watch out for that tree," theme song by the Presidents of the United States of America.

Two years later Fraser was back in another Ward inspired movie about a bumbling Canadian Mountie called Dudley Do-Right who "always gets his man."

Co-starring with Sarah Jessica Parker and Alfred Molina, the story saw Dudley track his nemesis, the depraved Snidely Whiplash. Bad

reviews — USA Today called it a "Dead-carcass spinoff of Jay Ward's animated TV favorite" — doomed the movie, but the character lives on as part of an amusement park ride called Dudley Do-Right's Ripsaw Falls at the Islands of Adventure theme park.

Finally, despite a big name cast — Jason Alexander, Rene Russo and John Goodman — The Adventures of Rocky & Bullwinkle bombed at the box office despite Robert De Niro doing a take on his famous "You talkin' to me?" speech from Taxi Driver.

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Cameron Diaz ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Cameron and Sofia finally Spike Jonze of contention

It took more than a decade, but Cameron Diaz has reportedly forgiven director Sofia Coppola for the perceived slight of Anna Faris' ditzy actress character in *Lost in Translation*, suspected by many to be based on Diaz as retaliation for her flirtation with Coppola's then-husband, Spike Jonze. "Sofia and Cameron have had an incredibly difficult relationship since 1999, the year Sofia married Spike."

It only got worse when the film came out and it became pretty well-known that part of the movie was based on their real-life feud," a source tells Radar Online — though Coppola has downplayed the comparison. "There has been a thaw in the relationship between Sofia and Cameron in recent months. They had drinks this summer and cleared the air, possibly even paving the way for a future collaboration."

Lena takes on Archie's girls Betty and Veronica

Lena Dunham is trading her usual clique of *Girls* for two other ladies: Betty and Veronica. Archie comics chief creative officer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa has asked Dunham to write four new stories for the 75-year-old comic book series, and she readily agreed.

"We heard she was an Archie fanatic, and we run in similar circles, so I was able to reach out to her," Aguirre-Sacasa, who was also a writer on *Glee*, tells Comic Book Resources.

His lips are sealed as to what the new storyline will be, but he did say it is very con-



Lena Dunham

temporary and gives the classic comic book a unique spin.

"It has so much cultural significance but also so much personal significance, and to get to play with these beloved characters is a wild creative opportunity" Dunham says in a statement that was released after the news was announced.

ScarJo will be rocking the cradle with Frenchfiancé



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

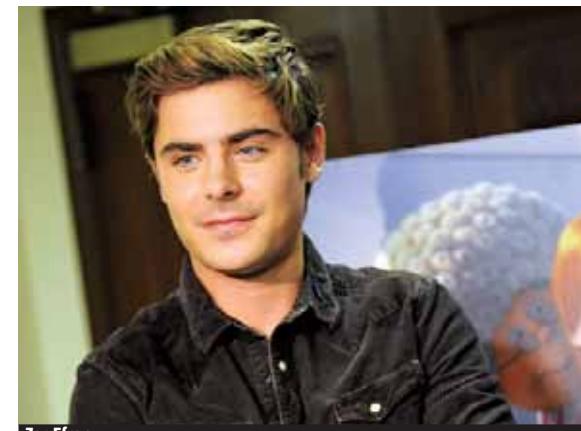
Scarlett Johansson, 29, is expecting a baby with her French fiancé, Romain Dauriac, E! News confirmed.

Not much is known about Johansson's baby daddy. Alternate reports have him as a journalist, the head of a creative agency and an advertising director. Whoever he is, he has excellent taste: Johansson showed off her ginormous vintage art

deco engagement ring at the Venice Film Festival in September.

Did ScarJo know she was pregnant when she talked with the Daily Mail in December? "I would like to have my own family, that would be nice," she said. "They say it's never the right time and I am sure that's true, but I think you have to plan it like anything else." Looks like that time is now.

But what does the happy news mean for Johansson's next turn as Black Widow in *Avengers: Age of Ultron*? The actress is set to begin work on the sequel to the 2012 hit on April 5 following her promotional tour for *Captain America: the Winter Soldier*, and while Marvel Studios has no comment about adjusting her schedule, an insider says, "They're going to fast-track her scenes."



Zac Efron

Zac says no, no, no while recent rehabber Selena sips Oscars night away

While Zac Efron may have attended the Academy Awards festivities Sunday night with a sober coach in tow, recent rehab resident Selena Gomez reportedly let loose at the Vanity Fair Oscar party, sources tell Radar Online. The Spring Breakers star was "drinking constantly throughout the

entire party when I saw her," a source says. "She was having a grand old time, and towards the tail end she was stumbling in her heels and almost toppled right over." In January, Gomez slipped off to an Arizona rehab facility for a two-week stay, though her rep said it was "not for substance abuse."

Thicke hopes reunion with Patton pending

Robin Thicke is pulling out all the stops in trying to win back estranged wife Paula Patton. Following a quick trip to Vancouver to try to make things work with Patton, Thicke has been using his live shows as a soapbox to proclaim his love, according to E! News. In Virginia last week, he told the crowd, "Me and my wife separated, but I'm trying to get my girl back" before launching into his hit *Lost Without U*. And this week, while performing in Atlantic City, he added Al Green's classic *Let's Stay Together* to his set list, preceding it with another heart-



Robin Thicke

felt monologue: "Never stop believing and you never stop loving. And even if it is over, make sure you treat each other right. Treat your family right," he told the crowd.



Intouchables

Science IN THE Cinema

ASK A HEALTH RESEARCHER: IS IT SCIENCE OR FICTION?

Thursday, March 6th, 2014. 6:30 – 9:00PM

An aristocratic quadriplegic hires a young man from the projects to be his caregiver. Dr. Patrick Whelan will introduce the film. Dr. Whelan is Professor in both the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and the Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary. He will host a discussion about spinal research after the film.

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Science in the Cinema

Finding the magic in Mexico

Loreto. This sleepy seaside village is the destination developers forgot — so get there before the hordes do

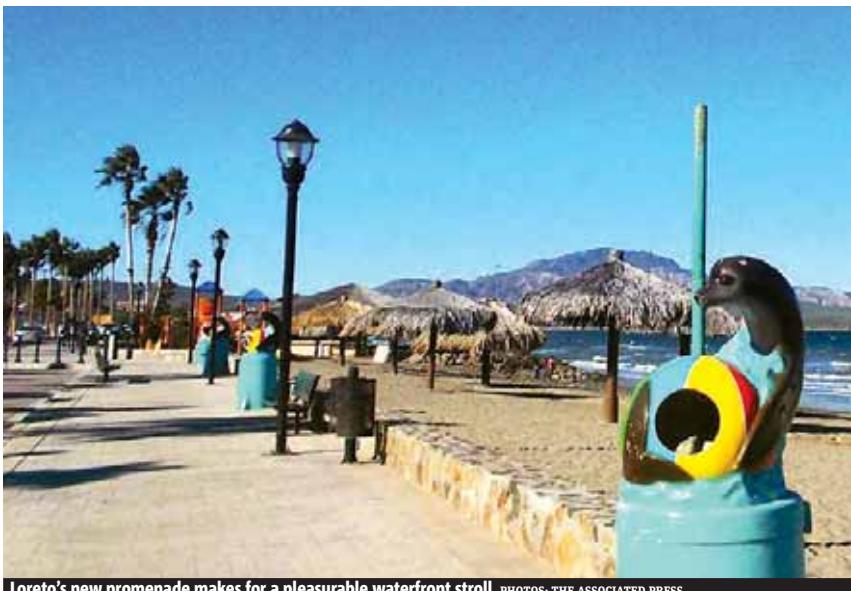
Efforts to turn the Mexican seaside village of Loreto into a major destination have been going on for years. So far, though, the results have been limited, and that in itself makes it worth visiting.

Loreto is already a gem — a historic town nestled between gold-hued mountains and the blue Sea of Cortez. It's known mainly to whale watchers (late winter), sport fishermen (year-round) and snowbirds who drive down from British Columbia.

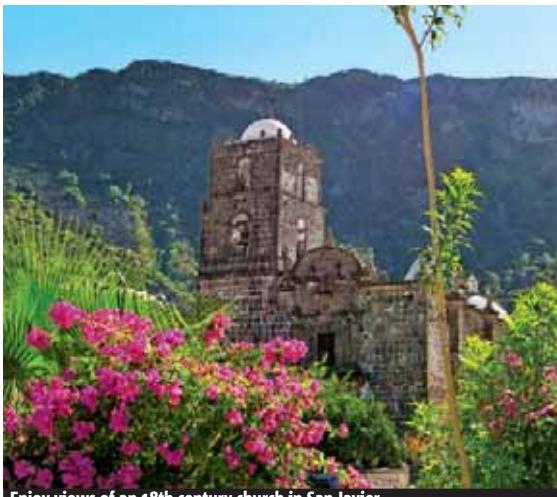
Loreto was earmarked for tourism development 30 years ago, part of an initiative that also included Cancun, Ixtapa, parts of Oaxaca and Los Cabos. While the others flourished, the development of Loreto faltered. In a renewed effort two years ago, Mexico's tourism agency gave Loreto its "Magic Town" moniker, a label to promote places notable for natural beauty, cultural riches or historical relevance. Still, the international airport here welcomed only about 40,000 tourists last year, compared to the million or so who flew to Los Cabos, 480 kilometres to the south.

And there are no cruise ships. Instead, there is the Loreto Bay National Marine Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site made up of five islands accessible only by boat.

After a 90-minute flight from Los Angeles — the only U.S. gateway at present — you will find a town seemingly frozen by the economic downturn, with half-built hotels and empty storefronts.



Loreto's new promenade makes for a pleasurable waterfront stroll. PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Enjoy views of an 18th century church in San Javier.

You'll also find a bit of "old" Mexico. There are a fair number of people who speak no English, friendly ex-pats happy to offer suggestions, a scatter-

ing of small festivals, a soccer stadium with spirited games, and a local mariachi band that plays in khakis, not costumes. Following are some highlights.

Dining

- Canipole.** A spot that has no menu, no roof and an open kitchen, and provides traditional blankets for diners to wear when temperatures fall. The guacamole is made tableside, followed by the daily special, which almost always includes some divine mole.

- Mexico Lindo Y Que Rico.** Great chili rellenos and a two-metre shark sculpture that's beaded in a classic Huichol style and depicts scenes of Loreto and the surrounding mountains.

lighthouse and a small marina, where skippered pangas (small open boats with outboard motors) can be rented for about \$100 for fishing, bird-watching, wildlife-viewing or a lift to the white-sand beach on Coronado Island.

Farther down, the sidewalk runs past a city beach, empty during the January chill but for the permanent thatched-roof palapas that provide relief from the sun.

History

Loreto became the first Spanish settlement on the Baja California peninsula when Jesuit missionaries established the Mission of Our Lady of Loreto in 1697. The baroque-style church still functions, and is used for weddings. An adjacent Mission Museum highlights not only the religious past, but also the political history, as Loreto served as the regional capital from 1697 to 1777.

An 18th-century church popular with pilgrims is located an hour away, high in the Sierra de la Giganta mountains in the hamlet of San Javier. Lunch is available at a restaurant in the village, which only got full-time electricity in 2012.

Waterfront

A new, multimillion-dollar promenade makes for a pleasant waterfront stroll and provides for spectacular views east towards the islands. It passes a

Beaches
The best beaches are a short drive from Loreto, but the roads are good and the travel easy. Thirty kilometres south is the community of Ensenada Blanca, which undoubtedly has the most spectacular views of the marine park. You can access the beach through a time-share property, the Villa Del Palmar. It sells a visitor pass for \$65 US per person, which includes unlimited food and drinks, and use of the pools and beach from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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The Himalayas

This summer, head for the hills — you won't find anything more achingly beautiful than Northern India. Always a top spot for committed backpackers and mountaineers, this remote region welcomes the regular traveller via the inventive Shakti Village Experiences. These adventures offer private tours through a paradise of pristine nature. There is rafting, camping, camel riding and cooking classes, along with hikes to villages and temples. You stay in a traditional Himalayan home with a porter, chef and guides who keep things safe and comfortable. It is off the beaten track, but with niceties you wouldn't expect at 10,000 feet above sea level. Visit shaktihimalaya.com. **DOUG WALLACE/METRO**

What's the deal?
Metro's globe-trotting columnist offers advice on common quandaries



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

This week I'm answering some reader questions about travel.

Heading to Europe this summer. Where can I get the best bang for my buck?

According to Hotels.com's Hotel Price Index, which pinpoints cities where you can find affordable hotel rooms, you should be looking at capitals that all start with the letter B for the best value: think Brussels, Berlin and Budapest. Lisbon also makes the under \$200-per-night cut. Additionally, the Portuguese capital offers great restaurant food at reasonable prices.

Can I get a prescription filled abroad?



Want to do Europe on the cheap? The cities that start with B — like Budapest — have the best hotel deals. **ISTOCK**

Pharmaceutical regulations are different in each country, so getting a supply of medicine on foreign soil isn't simple. Ensure the pills you are looking for are legal in your host country and know the generic name and dosage for the medication. Find an accredited,

English-speaking physician through the local Canadian consulate or the International Association for Medical Assistance to Travellers (iamat.org).

Doctors, who are members, will often make house calls to hotels. Be sure to fill the prescription at a phar-

macy recommended by that doctor or attached to a clinic or hospital, as counterfeit drugs have become increasingly common abroad.

Should you tip hotel room attendants?

Absolutely, they're often

forgotten. I like to leave \$2 to \$5 per day, depending on extra touches provided, on the bed with a note of thanks. If you prefer to leave one tip at the end of a longer stay, leave an envelope at the front desk. Note your name and room number and dates of stay and ask to have it divided among all the staff who serviced your room.

Any tips on avoiding lost luggage?

When booking your trip, try a direct flight. If it's not possible, ensure you have ample time between flights for your bags to be transferred.

Book your trip on the same airline so if a bag is lost you are dealing with one airline versus two that may try and push the blame onto each other. Label your baggage with your name and contact information including cellphone number. For security reasons, use your work address, not your home address, and put labels on the inside and outside of your luggage in case the tags get ripped off.



Wuxi, China

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Creepy crawlies get super sized at exhibit

Bugs: Outside the Box. A collection of insect sculptures makes its Canadian debut in Halifax — and the kids love it

It's a way to get to know your backyard invaders without the "ew" factor.

A larger-than-life exhibit at Halifax's Museum of Natural History is hoping to get people acquainted with bugs in a new way — by enlarging them more than 15 times their normal size.

"Bugs are, for many people, a challenge, and creepy," museum spokesman Jeff Gray said while standing next to a giant sculpture of a Hercules beetle.

"When you magnify them, they kind of lose parts of that. That representation allows you to disconnect with any phobias and allows you to really appre-

If you go...

- Dates.** Bugs: Outside The Box will be on until May 19 at the Museum of Natural History, located at 1747 Summer St. in Halifax.
- Hours.** The museum is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m.

ciate it."

Halifax is the first Canadian stop for Bugs: Outside The Box, which includes about a dozen realistic sculptures of such creepy crawlers as the long-armed beetle, the dragonfly and the leaf grasshopper.

Created by Italian sculptor Lorenzo Possenti, the travelling exhibit aims to show the intricate anatomy of insects without the use of a microscope.

"The sculptures have been done in a way that are very true to the bugs themselves. They're extremely accurate, even at this size," said Gray. "For a lot of people coming to the exhibit,

they appreciate the bugs and they also appreciate the artistic nature of it."

One section of the exhibit features three vibrantly-coloured butterflies with bulbous black eyes and wings that span nearly two metres.

Below the models is a touchable yellow and black wing, exposing the butterflies' rough scales that are normally extremely delicate to human hands. "If you ever handle a butterfly or moth, they have a dust that comes off, and that's their scales. That hurts their wings," said Heather McKinnon Ramshaw, assistant co-ordinator



Bugs get blown up in a new exhibit in Halifax. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ator of interpretation for the museum. "These ones you can actually touch and kind of feel what it's like."

Nearby is one of the world's masters of disguise: the stick insect. This long, slender bright green bug stands out at the museum, but in the wild it uses its camouflage to blend in with plant life and avoid becoming dinner.

Other, more ominous-looking insects include various beetle species that reveal the extent of their protective exoskeletons and massive jaws capable of grabbing opponents.

Gray said it's museum-goers of the tiny sort that are enjoying the exhibit most. "Kids love bugs, and this is a fun way to see them," he said. "It's a very children-friendly experience."

Young entomologists

"Kids love bugs, and this is a fun way to see them. It's a very children-friendly experience."

Jeff Gray, spokesman, Halifax's Museum of Natural History

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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- Experience in working in web based programs
- Comprehensive knowledge of Microsoft Office, Excel and Word
- Customer Service Skills
- Ability to multi-task and work in a fast paced environment
- Detail oriented
- Flexible, independent, creative, efficient, entrepreneurial spirited rebel preferred

Interested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resumé and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than March 11th.

PLEASE QUOTE: "Credit Card Authorization Assistant" in the Subject Line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

Surf parks are making waves

Travel trend. Artificial waves can make surfing more friendly for the masses, but will it corrupt a sport that's at one with nature?

Some of surfing's biggest names aren't just catching waves. They're also talking about making them.

Surf parks — massive pools with repeating, artificial waves — are the latest buzzword in the surf community, as everyone from top athletes to retailers look for ways to expand the sport, boost sales and create a standardized way to train that could help surfing earn an Olympic pedigree.

"Mother Nature stipulates that surfing only can occur where waves can be born. When man takes his hand to forming the waves, it unlocks the potential of surfing anywhere. And that is the most powerful thing," said Doug Palladini, president of the Surf Industry Manufacturers Association. Last November, dozens of industry leaders, surfers and investors met in Laguna Beach in Southern California for the first annual Surf Park Summit to spark interest in a business proposition that could breathe life into a sport that struggled during the recession.

About 50 per cent of independent mom-and-pop surf retailers — the heart and soul of surf culture — shut down worldwide during the recession



Professional surfer Gabriel Medina of Brazil, back, rides the machine-made wave at WaveHouse San Diego.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The problem is, surf culture is about so much more than just riding a wave. It is about having a genuine respect and connection with the ocean."

Surfer and blogger Zac Heisey addressing the debate on his blog, In the Name of Surf

and those that survived face an increasingly saturated market that is limited by geography.

Enter the dream surf park, a two-acre wave pool capable of generating anything from tiny beginner ripples to 10-foot barrels every minute, with every wave the same. Customers would pay by the number of waves to learn the sport or refine their technique and learn new tricks.

The prospect has surf board manufacturers and apparel retailers salivating at the thought of new markets for surf gear

and clothing in land-locked places like Kansas or Nebraska. But parks would also be prime real estate for sponsored surfing competitions that would draw both eyeballs and dollars.

There are tantalizing what-ifs: A national surfing league, much like the NBA, with feeder teams and city affiliations. Live, televised surfing competitions staged with predictable waves in a massive surf arena.

Some even believe surf parks could propel the sport into the Olympics, a dream that has so far proven elusive.

"Without man-made waves, there will not be Olympic surfing," said Fernando Aguerre, president of the International Surfing Association. "It's the ultimate wave-sharing that you can imagine."

Olympics aside, everyday surfers who already live near the beach say even they would use the parks as a supplement to the ocean, to refine their skills on a consistent wave or get in a few rides when the natural surf is bad.

"In a park, you can always get in a perfect position, the wave will always be perfect and you can really work on your surfing," said Cliff Char, 54, who's been surfing 15 years near his hometown of Seal Beach.

Detractors, however, worry that in the rush to surf parks, the sport will lose its soul.

Betting on artificial waves, they say, will sanitize and commercialize a pastime the most passionate surfers describe as a solitary, rugged pursuit where athletes and nature commune. They say the sport will lose sight of its culture and history if the next generation learns to rip on chlorinated water.

"The problem is, surf culture is about so much more than just riding a wave. It is about having a genuine respect and connection with the ocean," said Zac Heisey, a surfer and freelance writer who addressed the debate on his blog, In the Name of Surf.

Others are concerned that the energy required to power waves big enough for surf parks will contribute to global warming. Momentum around surf parks has been growing since the 1960s, but fewer than a dozen serious parks currently exist in locations from Florida to Malaysia — and cost and wave technology have always been stumbling blocks.

That technology has now advanced enough to make parks economically viable.

Some of the biggest and best-known include Disney's Typhoon Lagoon in Florida, Wadi Adventure in United Arab Emirates and Wavegarden, a private research and development site tucked away in Spain's Basque country.

A park that would attract serious surfers would run between \$15 million and \$25 million US to build and need to be at least two acres in size to allow surfers to paddle in.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deal

Eurostar discounts

Until April 2, Rail Europe is giving 20 per cent off select high-speed Eurostar train tickets between London and Paris or Brussels. Those who book also get 10 per cent off London and Paris city passes, which are good for discounted tours, theatre tickets and restaurants, and for jumping to the head of the line at some sites. Visit raileurope.ca.

How-to

Mind your money

1. Always travel with a small amount of the currency of the country you're visiting. 2. Tell both the bank and your credit card company where and when you're going. 3. Take leftover cash home and start a currency kit so you'll have money ready for next time.

Trend

The Poshtel

Backpackers in Britain have never had it so good — with the introduction of the posh hostel — or poshtel. The U.K.'s Youth Hostel Association has spent more than \$40 million on renovations to key hostels. Luxe perks now include things like en-suite bathrooms and bridal suites. Visit yha.org.uk. DOUG WALLACE/METRO

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The ABCs of nabbing some 1,2,3s: money in your post-secondary pocket

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Everyone knows that school is expensive, which is why there are number of different forms of financial assistance available to students at all levels.

You may not think there's a funding package out there for you, but chances are a little research will show you otherwise.

It can take a bit of digging to find scholarships or grants you're eligible for, but it's a small price to pay for the chance to score some free cash.

Scholarships,
bursaries and
grants

Scholarships, bursaries and

grants are three of the most common application-based sources of funding available to students.

Although all three are monetary awards given to students to help cover education-related expenses, they are usually disbursed according to different criteria.

Scholarships are generally based on merit, bursaries are typically based on financial need and grants are most often awarded for a specific project or program.

How to apply

To find out which awards are available to you, talk to your school's registrar or main administrative office. They should either have information about student awards or be able to direct you to the department that does.

Many schools also host a student award information session at the beginning of the school year to tell students about financial aid offered by the university or college — equip yourself with a pen and notepad and get there early, as seats



Cast your net wide and don't be afraid to shout your need for a little monetary help to the world. COLOURBOX

tend to fill up fast.

After you've checked with your school, do some research online to find out about awards offered by the government, foundations and corporations.

Work-study programs

Many schools offer co-op or work-study programs to give students a chance to gain hands-on experience in their chosen field before they graduate.

How to apply

Check with your department to make sure you're eligible for the program, then ask if it's OK for you to take a paid position and still get course credit.

Once you've got the go-ahead, start contacting potential employers to find out about current opportunities or try talking to students who've already done a placement to see if they know of any paid positions you can apply for.

Be proactive

Once you know what scholarship, bursary and grant opportunities exist, make a list of which ones you plan to apply for and what each application requires. You'll usually need to fill out some kind of form and provide transcripts, letters of reference and possibly an application letter or essay.

- Jot down the deadlines for each application in a calendar or planner and plan ahead to make sure you submit your applications on time — the competition can be pretty fierce and a late application will most likely mean you won't be considered.

prenticeship on your own. This is a great way to get relevant work experience in your field and it can provide a (modest) income to help you pay for school.

How to apply

Look for companies or organizations in your area that are connected to your program of study.

Contact the manager or human resources department to express your interest in the work they do and ask if they have any need for an extra set of hands in the coming months.

Be sure to emphasize that you're passionate about what you're studying and you're hoping to learn more about the career you're pursuing by working "in the field."

If you're still struggling to pay for school, consider taking on a part-time job to help you cover your costs. It can feel overwhelming to see your tuition, textbook and living costs add up as you work towards completing a post-secondary program, but there is help out there.

Spend some time doing your research to learn about the funding that's available — you'll have to invest at least a few hours in each award or position you apply for, but it could be well worth your effort in the end.

Internships/ apprenticeships

If your school does not offer a work-study or co-op program, consider applying for an internship or ap-

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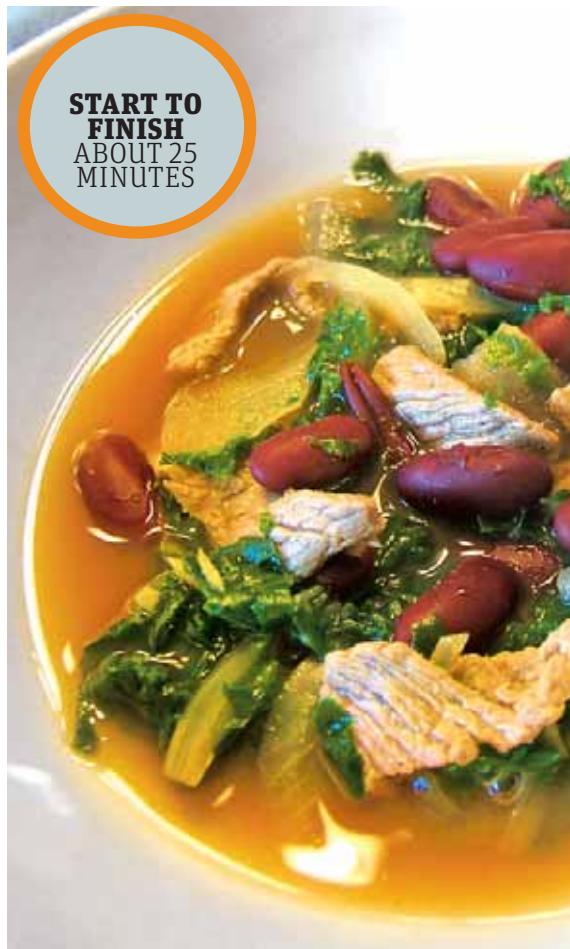
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Warm up and get your vitamin C fix



This recipe makes three to four servings. EMILY RICHARDS

Beef and Kale Soup. The superfood is often associated with being turned into crispy chips, but it also works great in main dishes



DINNER
EXPRESS

Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Kale is a great source of vitamin C and folate, so a little packs a punch.

I love cooking with kale and especially adding it to soups and pastas. Try adding

Ingredients

- 1 tsp (5 ml) canola oil
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each ground cumin and coriander
- 4 cups (1 l) beef broth
- 2 cups (500 ml) lightly packed finely shredded kale
- 1 striploin grilling steak (about 8 oz/250 g)
- 1 can (19 oz/540 ml) red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper

to turn golden. Add stock and bring to boil. Add kale and cook, stirring occasionally for 5 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, trim any fat from steak and discard. Slice steak into thin strips and cut strips in half crosswise. Add to soup along with beans and pepper and cook, stirring occa-

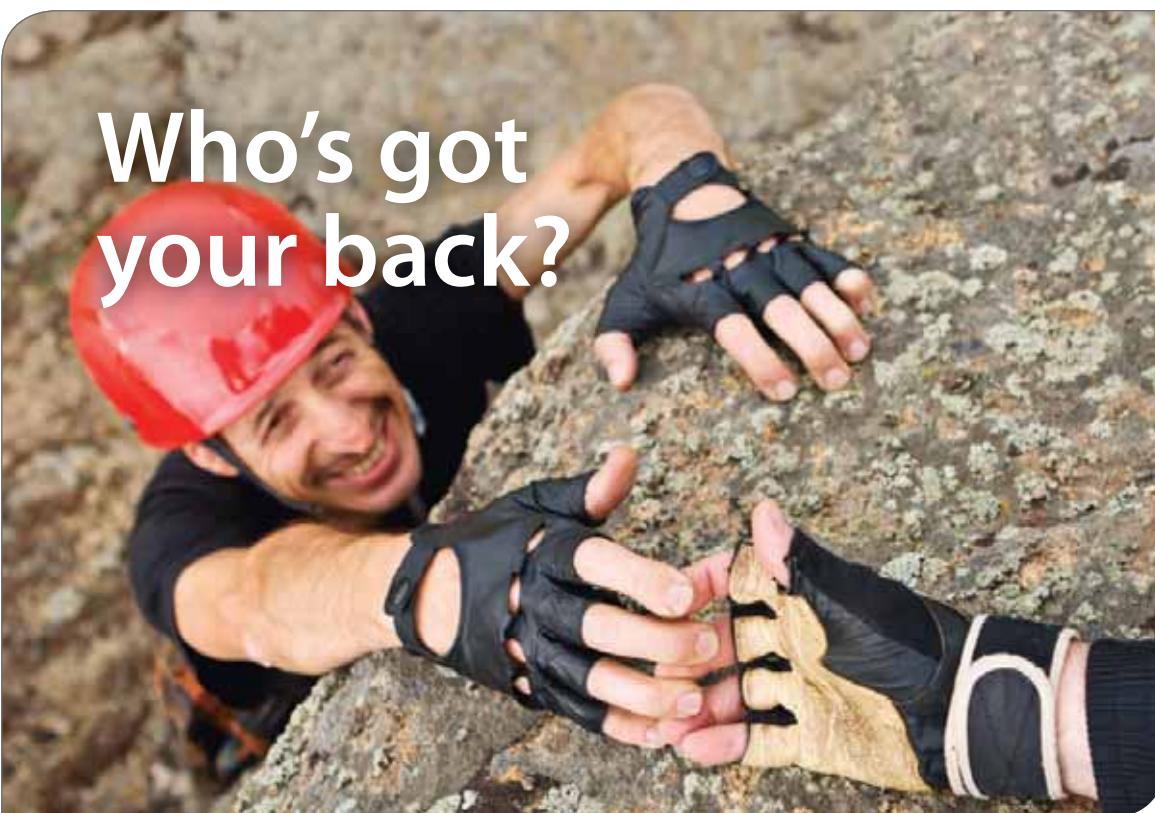
FLASH FOOD

From your fridge
to your table in
30 minutes or less

casionally for about 10 minutes or until kale is tender and steak is slightly pink inside.

Cooking tips

- You can use two boneless, skinless chicken breasts for the beef (sliced and cooked until no longer pink inside). You can also use spinach or Swiss chard for the kale.
- What do you do with leftover kale? Kale chips! They're crispy, low calorie, full of great nutrition, and an easy way to increase your intake of micronutrients.



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Open for business

NHL. Monahan, Giordano only Flames off limits at trade deadline, Burke says

The Calgary Flames were sellers heading into Wednesday's NHL trade deadline, but buyers had yet to open their wallets a day out.

The showiest items on Calgary's lot were forwards Mike Cammalleri and Lee Stempniak. Both will be unrestricted free agents this summer.

Interim general manager Brian Burke's theory for slow business was shoppers were temporarily preoccupied elsewhere.

Other forwards said to be on the market were New York Rangers captain Ryan Callahan, Vancouver Canucks forward Ryan Kesler, Matt Moulson of the Buffalo Sabres, Ales Hemsky of the Edmonton Oilers and Thomas Vanek of the Buffalo Sabres.

"I think there's a logjam that's been presented or created by two, three, four players that's going to paralyze the rest of the league," Burke told reporters Tuesday at Scotiabank Saddledome.

"You'll see other deals happening but I think the holdup for a high-end forward has kind been captivated by two, three, four players."

"I think we're on the backburner for a lot of teams right



Flames rookie Sean Monahan, left, and captain Mark Giordano are the only Flames interim GM Brian Burke won't discuss in trade talk leading up to Wednesday's trade deadline. JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

now. Doesn't mean nothing is going to happen, but that's where we are today.

"We've been in discussions with every team in the league and what they're trying to do. We have some unrestricted free agents we will move if the price is right. I'm not close on anything that makes sense for us."

Speedy rebuilder



"It could be a very important day for the franchise, the next 24 hours, but it's not the same as when you're adding to try to make a push." Flames interim GM Brian Burke, on the significance of Wednesday's trade deadline.

Trade speculation in Calgary has centred on Cammalleri, but with a record of 23-31-7 and destined for a fifth straight season out of the playoffs, the only Flames that Burke considers off limits were captain Mark Giordano and rookie Sean Monahan.

"When you're in the place we are in the standings, your list of untouchables should be either nonexistent or tiny," Burke said.

Burke, the Flames president of hockey operations, stepped in as interim GM when he fired Jay Feaster on Dec. 12. He intends to hire a new GM.

But Burke's mandate is to

speed up Calgary's rebuild by whatever means necessary: trades, spending to the cap or the signing of free agents.

"You can't be waiting for the next guy," Burke said. "We're going to do what we can to improve. If that means there's a few less decisions for the new guy, that's fine."

"The dynamic of the trade deadline is, you want to show your players first and foremost, if you're close, you want the room to feel you've done something to add. You want the players to believe management is trying to make the team better."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spring training

Jeter still looking for first hit

Derek Jeter went 0 for 2 to extend his hitless spring training, and the New York Yankees lost to the Baltimore Orioles 3-2 on Tuesday night.

The Yankees captain is 0 for 9 in four games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spring training

Lee outduels Dickey but Jays top Phillies

Cliff Lee gave up a run in three innings, outpitching fellow Cy Young Award winner R.A. Dickey, but Adam Lind and Dan Johnson each homered for the Toronto Blue Jays in their 5-3 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday night.

Lee allowed three hits and struck out two. Dickey yielded three runs and four hits in four innings of his second spring start. He struck out two and walked three.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine united


"The national team is a symbol of unity because players come from all over Ukraine. We're all one big family, we're all united."

Ukraine men's soccer team captain Anatoliy Tymoshchuk. The Ukrainians are scheduled to face the United States in a friendly on Wednesday in Cyprus, a match moved from Kharkiv to Larnaca for security reasons.

A new Sunrise: Luongo sent back to Fla.



Roberto Luongo spent five seasons with the Florida Panthers before being traded to the Canucks in June 2006. BILL HARRINGTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Vancouver Canucks traded goaltender Roberto Luongo to the Florida Panthers on Tuesday, ending a roller-coaster saga that has gone on for almost three years.

Luongo's unhappiness in Vancouver since the 2011 Stanley Cup final included being usurped as the starter by Cory Schneider, demanding to be traded, complaining that his \$64-million US, 12-year contract "sucks" and seeing Schneider being dealt away.

Coach John Tortorella added another chapter by choos-

Pumped?

Roberto Luongo — at least temporarily — joins Tim Thomas in Florida, the goalie who beat him in the 2011 Stanley Cup final while with the Boston Bruins.

ing not to start the 34-year-old in last weekend's Heritage Classic, opting to go with Eddie Lack.

Now Lack could split duties with Jacob Markstrom, ac-

quired from the Panthers as part of the Luongo deal along with forward Shawn Matthias.

ECHL-based forward Steve Anthony also heads to Florida.

"This caught me off guard," Luongo said, as quoted by the Canucks on Twitter in a post that was then quickly deleted. "But I'm excited. I'm going home."

Luongo returns to the Panthers with eight years left on his deal beyond this season. The Montreal native makes his off-season home in South Florida. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sven Baertschi has struggled at the NHL level with the Flames this season after showing signs of promise in his first stints in Calgary. DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

Skater Junio's sacrifice won't go unrewarded

Gilmore Junio is getting a medal after all.

The Canadian speedskater withdrew from the men's 1,000-metre race in Sochi last month so teammate Denny Morrison could compete instead.

Morrison won silver in that Olympic race but it was Junio's selflessness that made headlines and got Canadians talking.

Mike Richardson couldn't fathom giving up his dream the way the speedskater had. The partner and creative designer for Jackknife, a Toronto design company, talked to his co-workers about Junio and how they could recognize the skater's generous act.

Junio's story resonates with people because it came at a time when Canadians are questioning our global identity, Richardson said.

"I think some of the shine has worn off the Canadian persona of being the super nice people; in certain circles we're getting knocked around a bit," he said.

"Along come the Olympics. We're doing really well and winning medals and we start to feel like we're a competi-



Toronto design company Jackknife is creating a medal for Gilmore Junio, the Canadian speedskater who gave up his spot in an Olympic race to his teammate and eventual silver medallist. CONTRIBUTED GEMMA KARSTENS-SMITH



Gilmore Junio
THE CANADIAN PRESS

tive nation. Then out of nowhere, this guy reminds us that what we really stand for isn't winning or being the best or having the most money,

cussed, he realized they could make it a reality. The medal's top layer will be gold, because that's the top accolade for an athlete. The centre layer will be silver, representing the medal Morrison won in Sochi thanks to Junio's sacrifice. And the final layer will be maple wood, a nod to the Canadian people.

By noon Tuesday, Jackknife had raised more than \$6,750 for the project through crowd funding. Any extra money raised will go to the charity of Junio's choice.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Future Flames not looking that exciting



THE HOCKEY NEWS
Brian Costello
calgary@metronews.ca

It's been 12 years since the Calgary Flames had the depth and quality of prospects it now has in the system. That's what the experts are telling us.

Not since the heady days of 2002 when Jordan Leopold, Chuck Kobasew and Oleg Saprykin were all members of the Future Watch top 50 list have the Flames boasted a threesome of A-list prospects.

A panel of 17 NHL scouts and GMs gave us their top 50 ballots and Johnny Gaudreau (No. 29), Sven Baertschi (No. 35) and Emile Poirier (No. 48) were consensus selections. Prospect goalie Jon Gillies and Joni Ortio just missed the top 75. Surprisingly, 2013 first-rounder Morgan Klimchuk didn't get a single vote

as a top 50 prospect.

This annual issue by The Hockey News is now available on newsstands. Future Watch ranks the top 10 prospects in each organization, then has scouts select the cream of the crop. Most prospects are from the past two or three drafts and that's exactly when the Flames started making a concerted effort in planning for the future.

As a team, the Flames didn't rank as high as I thought they would. I envisioned a top 15 spot based on some solid drafts by deposed GM Jay Feaster, yet our scouting committee had them coming in at No. 23. This was based on their top 10 prospects and 21-and-under NHLers, of which Calgary just has Sean Monahan.

Gaudreau will almost assuredly win the Hobey Baker Award next month as the top player in U.S. college hockey.

The Boston College left-winger will then probably sign a pro contract with the Flames. His jump to No. 29 was from the No. 50 spot last year.

Baertschi is going the other way. He was ranked 15th in both 2012 and 2013 before slipping to 35th this year. It's been a trying season for the former Portland star as he tries to make his way back to the NHL.

Poirier has been an offensive machine in Gatineau this season. The Flames selected him with the first-round pick they received from St. Louis in the Jay Bouwmeester trade last season. As a late 1994 birthday, Poirier will be 19 when he starts the season in either Calgary or Abbotsford next October.

Other prospects in Calgary's top 10 are 2012 first-rounder Mark Jankowski, Markus Granlund, who recorded his first NHL point in Minnesota Monday, Max Reinhart and Bill Arnold.

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Volvo's new V60: safe and stylish



PHOTOS: WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Review. Walking the fine line between form and function ... and sometimes crossing it

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

Station wagons have been around for decades, but perhaps no other brand is more identified with this form of transportation than Volvo. That's what makes the 2015 V60 Sportwagon such an important addition to the Sweden-based (and Geely-owned) fleet.

In many respects the V60 represents a return to Volvo's roots. There hasn't been a front-wheel-drive carryall in the brand's North American lineup since the V70 was retired after the 2010 model year. That left just the all-wheel-drive XC70 with its hiked-up suspension and blacked-out trim as the company's wagon flag-bearer.

In cargo capacity the V60 comes up a bit shorter than you would think when compared to the old V70. That's the cost of style, apparently.

The elegant interior features a unique "waterfall" control panel that flows downward from the dashboard onto the floor console. There's storage space behind the flat panel, which is pretty standard for Volvo. The rest of the cabin displays considerable premium content with the optional well-bolstered seats being precisely what you would expect in a car that uses the Sportwagon tag.

There's also plenty of sporting content to be found under the hood. The V60 and S60 will be the first Volvos to reach North America with a brand new engine. The turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder "Drive-E" that will be available starting this summer generates 240 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque. All of Volvo's powerplants will eventually be based off the Drive-E, but for the time being buyers can also select the turbocharged 2.5-litre five-cylinder in the T5 AWD that makes 250 horsepower and 266 pound-feet of torque. Also offered is the turbocharged 3.0-litre six-cylinder in the AWD R-Design that produces 325 horsepower and 354 pound-feet of torque.

2015 Volvo V60

- **Type.** Four-door, front- / all-wheel-drive wagon
- **Engines (hp).** 2.0-litre DOHC I4, TC (240); 2.5-litre DOHC I5, TC (250); 3.0-litre DOHC I6, TC (325-345)
- **Transmissions.** Eight (2.0) and six-speed automatic (std. 2.5, 3.0)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$41,500

Design

The V60 is an offshoot of the S60 sedan and shares much of its physical traits. However in back, the V60 presents one of the more attractively sculpted hatchbacks to grace any wagon. In most key measurements, length, width and distance between the front and rear wheels, both sedan and wagon are in a dead heat.

Compare



1 **BMW 328i xDrive**
Base price: \$50,000



2 **Cadillac CTS**
Base price: \$49,900

Engine

Along with a Volvo-measured zero-to-96-km-h (60-mph) time of 6.1 seconds, a major Drive-e bonus will be a fuel-consumption rating that's expected to be significantly lower than the inline five-cylinder's 9.9 l/100 km city and 6.5 highway.

For a very select group of V60/S60 buyers, the performance-focused limited-edition Polestar ups the 3.0's output to 345 horsepower and 369 pound-feet. An eight-speed automatic transmission connects to the 2.0, while a six-speed automatic handles the cog-swapping chores for the five- and six-cylinder models.

Definitely helping the fuel economy in the city is technology that stops the engine when the V60 is briefly stationary then automatically restarts it when the brake pedal is released. Volvo will also eventually offer a turbo-diesel and a plug-in hybrid version of the V60. Base V60 models, regardless of power choice, arrive with climate control, heated front seats, power moonroof and a power parking brake.

The remaining trim levels — Premier, Premier Plus and Platinum — add notable features such as a rear park assist camera, power-retractable outside mirrors, navigation system and premium audio. The top-Swede T6 R-Design comes with leather-covered sport seats, keyless start and 18-inch alloys. Of course safety-conscious Volvo offers an impressive selection of advanced crash-avoidance

aids. Notably, there's collision warning with pedestrian and cyclist detection as well as a Road Side Information Camera that projects speed-limit and no-passing signs onto the driver information screen. The car can warn the driver if the speed limit is exceeded.

It's that sort of unique safety gear that over the years has earned Volvo beloved-brand status. Ultimately, however, it's the V60 Sportwagon's sleek lines, inviting interior accoutrements and potent, yet new-age thrif-conscious powertrains that will help propel more youthful buyers into the Volvo fold.

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Automakers to take bite of Apple's new system

CarPlay. Technology giant's attempt to infiltrate the inside of your vehicle is impressive and 'kind of a big deal'



AUTO PILOT

Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

"I don't know how to put this, but I'm kind of a big deal."

Ron Burgundy said that in Anchorman, but you get the feeling Apple might say that too, though not too loudly, at this week's auto show in Geneva, as several show vehicles from Volvo, Ferrari and Mercedes-Benz are set to debut and demonstrate Apple's CarPlay.

CarPlay is Apple's way of infiltrating its operating system (OS) into the nerve centre of the automobile — it will allow you do everything you could do with your

iPhone while driving, but through the vehicle's built-in infotainment display.

Net result: the vehicle's display will feature recognizable Apple icons for music, phone, messages, navigation, etc. Volvo is introducing its new user interface on a concept displayed at Geneva, but the first production Volvo to feature it will be the all-new Volvo XC90 coming later this year — touted as the first vehicle to offer CarPlay.

According to Apple's website, Hyundai, Jaguar and Honda will join Volvo, Ferrari and Mercedes-Benz as the first six automakers to offer upcoming 2014 vehicles with CarPlay.

A whole bunch of other automakers also committed to roll out CarPlay, but a little further down the pike.

Apple says CarPlay can be operated with whatever controls the vehicle is equipped with, be they touch-screen, voice, rotary, or even a "joy stick" system like BMW's infamous iDrive.

No doubt that all the car makers, and the tech companies with a vested inter-



Volvo's new iPhone-friendly dash. COURTESY OF VOLVO

est like Google and Apple, are trying to give us all this great stuff with the easiest and safest interfaces possible, but the possibility of increased driver distraction is something that will always doggedly follow the technology.

There is just so much of it. And there's the catch 22

of when it's easier to use and blazingly beautiful, you just end up using it more. Like downing a bucket of low-cal ice-cream — good it's low-cal, but overall more bad because it's a whole bucket.

Reports are circulating that the U.S. vehicle transportation safety agency,

NHTSA, is worried about the increasing number of Americans getting killed in crashes involving a distracted driver, and is considering a ban on certain kinds of complex infotainment controls. "Joy stick" systems, for example, require an extra level of eye scanning, because the control

device is not directly beside the display.

NHTSA may also have a concern with touch screens — they are notorious for delays and false entries, leaving drivers wondering — and distracted — about if they actually achieved their desired selection.

"There is a reason jet cockpits don't have touch screens," said Greg Horn, who follows industry trends for Mitchell, a leading supplier of tools and training programs for the auto industry.

"You have this tactile switch. You are instantaneously aware that you have pushed that button, and the function is complete."

Horn also noted that Lincoln's new MKC is actually backing away from touch screens a bit, by having a few more rotary knobs than the previous version of Lincoln MyTouch.

All said, I am looking forward to CarPlay, and I will try to not lose my head or get too distracted when I inevitably encounter Apple's spinning pinwheel of death.

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Driving Force. This new pre-adjustment technology is not to be confused with a memory seat and it can all be operated through your smart phone

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

One of the keys to safe, comfortable driving is having your seat adjusted properly. While you currently have to do it yourself, it may not be long before your car sets itself to exactly the right position for you, even before you get in.

Automotive seat manufacturer Johnson Controls has developed a system that automatically adjusts the power seat to your size, or to anyone else who is driving the car.

"(It uses) the height of the occupant as the input to automatically adjust the seat motors for optimal positioning," says Deb Wines, director of new technologies for Johnson Controls Automotive Seating.

"Passengers can enter their height via a smart phone, or an on-board camera could be used to determine the occupant's height." The development

Take note

Position is paramount. The correct seating position gives you better visibility, reduces fatigue, and helps prevent injury in a crash.

See for yourself. Test by putting your wrist on the top of the steering wheel. You should have a slight bend in your elbow, but still be at least 25 cm from the wheel.

Different rules up front. Front-seat passengers should sit up straight and never put their feet on the dash, since the airbag can cause severe leg damage in a crash.

is actually an algorithm that uses a person's size to determine everything that goes into proper seat adjustment: the distance from the steering wheel, the seat's height, how the cushion is tilted, how far back the seat is reclined, and the position of the head restraint.

It wasn't a simple task, since preliminary research determined it wasn't enough to use leg length to figure out how far back the seat had to be, or torso length to adjust the seat's height. Instead, the developers found that measuring the body overall gave them

the information needed to find exactly the right position for almost all users. The system differs from a memory seat, which many cars already have.

These power-operated seats store one or more positions after the occupants have made the adjustments to the seats themselves, and then return to each position when a button is pushed or, in some vehicles, a specific key fob is used to open the car.

On the new automatic system, the seat does the work itself, making all the necessary adjustments after the driver has entered his or her height through a smartphone app, or into the car's vehicle settings.

And unlike a memory seat, the system can use the smartphone app to adjust itself even before a driver gets into the car for the very first time. "The pre-adjustment technology can be used by any number of different occupants using the same vehicle," Wines says. "This is an important distinction when it comes to fleet vehicles, rentals, (or) car-sharing."

The system is ready for integration into new vehicles, and Johnson Controls is able to provide it worldwide to its automaker customers. "Once we receive a customer order, we expect to see this in vehicles in as little as two years," Wines says.

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Today's cosmic set-up is fortunate, but only if you are prepared to get out into the world. You know the saying: It's not so much what you know that matters as who you know.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Now is the time to prove yourself. With your ruler Venus moving into the career area of your chart, you will impress people of power with ease — if you make the effort.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Venus, planet of emotional and material values, moves in your favour today, making it necessary to think about who and what means the most to you. You know the answer already, but remind yourself.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Everything is going so well for you at the moment that you may get a bit suspicious and wonder if it's some kind of cosmic trick. Nothing could be further from the truth. This is a genuine lucky streak, so enjoy.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Venus, planet of love, moves into the relationship area of your chart today, so anything of a partnership nature will go well. No matter how busy you may be, take time to remind that one special person how much they mean to you.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Remember it's quality, not quantity, that counts. If you keep that point in mind today, everyone will praise you for a job well done. If you try to do too much you'll please no one.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Too often in the past you have lacked the confidence to follow through on an idea. Now, you will look and act as if you can't fail. And you won't.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Venus, the planet that helps smooth over difficulties, moves into the domestic area of your chart today. Use its influence to reorder your home life in ways that suit your needs.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You can get through twice as much work in half as much time as you usually do today. But don't spend all your time on everyday chores because this is also an aspect that increases the fun factor.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

This should be a productive day but there is a danger that in your haste to show what you can do, you will take on too many tasks. Focus on the one thing you are great at.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

There is nothing you cannot do. With Venus, planet of harmony, joining Mercury in your sign today doors will open as if by magic and heads will turn as you walk down the street. You're worth watching.

Pisces

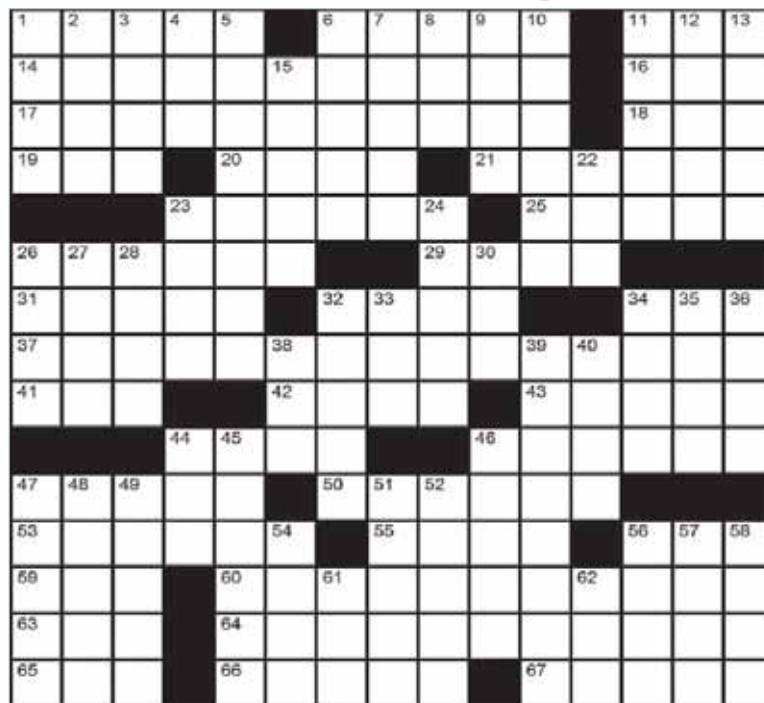
Feb. 20 - March 20

If someone is in trouble today you will ride to their rescue, no questions asked. While it's good of you to be generous with your time, you must be careful about how you use your money. And remember, it is YOUR money. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

1. Note hit by a soprano, __
6. Gene Pitney's "Twenty-Four Hours from __"
11. Colorado NHL players, to fans
14. Shakespeare comedy: 4 wds.
16. Sass
17. The Pursuit of Happiness song: 3 wds.
18. Jeanne d'Arc, e.g.
19. __ Z
20. Chess pieces, e.g.
21. Sandra Oh's Ontario birthplace
23. His-and-Her clothing
25. Microwaved
26. Equilibrium
29. Exuberance
31. Rice dish
32. Height: Prefix
34. Court game org.
37. Second Cup, for example: 3 wds.
41. Comic actress Ms. Gasteyer
42. Peace, in Paris
43. " __ had time to..." (There was extra time, so...)
44. Dave Clark Five's "Catch __ You Can"
46. Ms. Danes
47. Chicago airport
50. Set up
53. St. __ Canadian Memorial, in Belgium
55. Middle East country



56. Potsie's portrayer ...his initials-sharers
59. Blood-typing letters
60. Toffee brand in the tartan wrapper
63. " __ out!" (Ump's call)
64. Barenaked Ladies singer: 2 wds.
65. Jrs. dads

66. Songstress, Taylor

67. Playwright Eugene O'Neill's daughter's namesakes

4. Brick carrier

5. Saskatchewan town that is home to the 'World's Largest Tomahawk': 2 wds.

6. Inclines

7. Imperial decree

8. Romanian currency
9. Stop __
10. Greek goddess
11. Tatshenshihi __

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

27. Common noun suffix
28. Racing's Romeo
30. Prune
32. "Have __ trip home!"
33. Phi's Greek alphabet follower
34. "Avatar" (2009) species
35. Casket stand
36. Green Gables girl
38. Prefix meaning 'Over'
39. Soapy-tasting-to-some herb
40. Hatful
44. Mr. Geller
45. Appeared
46. Construction site sight
47. "Back Stabbers": 1972 hit by The __
48. Journalist/broadcaster, Karina __
49. Then: French
51. Camera company
52. "The __ has spoken." - Jeff Probst, "Survivor"
54. Zilch
56. PGA part [abbr.]
57. Nelly Furtado's 2000 debut album: __, Nelly!
58. American SINs equivalents
61. Sob
62. Ear: Prefix

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Weather

TODAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



MAX: -15°
MIN: -18°



MAX: -15°
MIN: -19°



MAX: -9°
MIN: -13°



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METEOROLOGIST

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WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM



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